

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

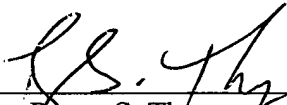
Claims 1-7 are pending herein, claim 1 being independent. By the amendment above, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 2, and claim 2 has now been canceled. Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to change their dependency from now-canceled claim 2 to independent claim 1. No other changes have been made, and no new matter has been added.

In the pending action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,866,678 (Jeter); and claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Jeter. The Examiner indicated that claims 2, 4 and 5 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if re-written in independent form. By the amendment above, the applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 2 (canceling claim 2) to present claim 2 in independent form and render all subsequent claims dependent therefrom. In light of the Examiner's favorable comments with respect to claim 2, it is therefore respectfully submitted that the claims as they now stand present allowable subject matter.

Early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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